

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A heat pipe assembly comprising:
a first heat pipe having a condenser and a working fluid;
a reservoir that is internal to said first heat pipe containing a non-condensable gas which variably permits access of the working fluid to the condenser of the first heat pipe, depending on a pressure of the working fluid; and
a second heat pipe having an evaporator that is in thermal contact with the first heat pipe.

2. (Currently Amended) The heat pipe assembly of claim 1, wherein:
the first heat pipe has a longitudinal direction;
the non-condensable gas has a moving front with a range of motion within the condenser of the first heat pipe;
when the moving front is at a first boundary of the range of motion, the working fluid does not access a portion of the condenser in which the evaporator of the second heat pipe is located; and [.]
when the moving front is at a second boundary of the range of motion, the working fluid accesses a portion of the condenser in which the evaporator of the second heat pipe is located.

3. The heat pipe assembly of claim 1, further comprising a heat sink or a plurality of fins attached to a condenser of the second heat pipe.

4. (Currently Amended) The heat pipe assembly of claim 3, wherein the first heat pipe has no heat sink or fins attached directly thereto.

5. The heat pipe assembly of claim 1, wherein at least a portion of the evaporator of the second heat pipe is contained inside of the condenser of the first heat pipe.

6. The heat pipe assembly of claim 1, wherein the reservoir is external to the first heat pipe, and communicates with the condenser of the first heat pipe.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The heat pipe assembly of claim 1, wherein:
the first heat pipe has an envelope, and
the second heat pipe has conductive members connecting the evaporator of the second heat pipe to an inside of the envelope of the first heat pipe at the condenser thereof.

9. (Original) The heat pipe assembly of claim 8, wherein the conductive members are a plurality of radial fins.

10. (Original) The heat pipe assembly of claim 8, further comprising a heat sink or a plurality of fins attached to the condenser of the second heat pipe, wherein the first heat pipe has no heat sink or fins attached directly thereto.

11. (Currently Amended) The heat pipe assembly of claim 1, further comprising an insulator that reduces heat transfer between an envelope of the first heat pipe and an envelope of the second heat pipe.

condensable

12. (Original) The heat pipe assembly of claim 11, wherein the insulator is ceramic.

13. (Original) The heat pipe assembly of claim 11, wherein the envelope of the first heat pipe has a section formed of a thermally insulating material at the condenser of the first heat pipe.

14. (Original) The heat pipe of claim 13, wherein the evaporator of the second heat pipe is located within the section formed of the thermally insulating material.

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15. (Original) The heat pipe of claim 13, wherein the non-condensable gas has a moving front with a range of motion within the section formed of the thermally insulating material.